

A COME of observation—Republicans of the Legislature.

Yes, as well as Blair, is running for the United States Senate on his war record.

The tone of Governor Woodson's inaugural address indicates that the policy of his Administration will be decidedly conservative.

Tat Secretaries of the Senate, with a few more lessons on the Governor's message from Sergeant-at-Arms Cullen, might succeed as readers.

Governor Woodson is now fairly seated in the Executive chair. He seems an approachable, affable gentleman—has already made friends of the members of the Press.

Is it in order to inquire if any of the members of the General Assembly have any "personal interest" in the passage of the "Bill for the relief of delinquent taxpayers?"

Does any of our citizens know what has become of the Board of Trade organization of this City? Has its existence terminated? If so we have to say that its career was brief but glorious—it is deserving of historical remembrance.

The Germans in the Legislature are very few, quite few enough for a fair and full representation of that class in our State. One of the few is Burger the Representative from Franklin County. But his seat is contested, and as he is a Republican, the possibility is that there will shortly be one less.

W. T. MOORE, Late of Cooper County, who a few days since was elected Recording Clerk of the House, died very suddenly in this city on Tuesday last, of heart disease.

In our acquaintance with Mr. Moore we formed a high estimate of his character and worth. His death is a sad and bereavement to a large circle of relatives and friends.

The Geological report of Prof. Pumphrey, recently submitted to the Executive Board, relates particularly to the coal fields of the North part of the State and to the iron deposits of the south part of the State and represents the sources of both in the most flattering light.

As we have before suggested, then, let us at Jefferson is where the coal of the north and the ore of the south must meet for use in the manufacture of iron.

In our Legislative report we embody a fair portion of Governor Woodson's inaugural address. On the whole it is a very fair and readable document. Its views touching amendments of the Constitution are eminently sensible and practical.

Concerning his views regarding the immense drain on the Treasury for costs in criminal cases and for adjourned sessions of the General Assembly, we cannot but infer that he has drawn largely from the speeches of General Henderson in the canvass of last summer.

The bill for the relief of delinquent taxpayers pending before the Legislature originated no doubt in a kindly purpose to succor the distressed. That it will serve such a purpose is of the utmost improbability. Very many whose names appear upon our tax books are constitutionally delinquent. To them, the postponement of the penalty, or interest charge for the non-payment of their taxes can only defer, not alleviate, their distress. It will come sooner or later. Generally speaking those who are habitually prompt in the payment of their taxes have already got their receipts in their pockets. On the score of "relief" then the passage of the bill can accomplish little, or nothing.

CHICAGO, JEFFERSON CITY, CALVESTON.

The Central Texas Railroad will be completed to Dennison in about thirty days. The Missouri, Kansas and Texas Road will then have a continuous line through to Galveston. Now the extension of the Louisiana Branch of the Alton and Chicago Road from this point west—over the line of the new road already graded through this County—to some point on the M. & T. road between Clinton and Nevada City would give to Chicago a direct and continuous line to Galveston. This then is an appropriate time to move for the incorporation of Chicago in pushing forward this extension.

DEMOCRATIC SENATORIAL CAUCUS RULES.

The committee appointed on Rules for the government of the Senatorial Caucus, have agreed upon the following:

- First, That every vote, being one-half of the Democratic and Liberal strength of the General Assembly, shall be requisite for a nomination.
- Second, That the names of candidates shall be submitted without debate.
- Third, That no new candidate shall be named after the tenth ballot.
- Fourth, That ten ballots shall be taken before a candidate is dropped.
- Fifth, All candidates must be put in nomination between the first and eleventh ballots.

THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE WEST.

In Sunday's issue we find a strong article under the above title in which a suggestion was made regarding the removal of the obstructions to the navigation of the Missouri River, to the first number of the Journal. It is a very timely suggestion. Of the wants of the west, and particularly of the river valley and plains, it is difficult to say too much. The people of the west body, leading by example, to the west, which in behalf of their

improvement the attention of those legislators who can remember for a moment the trust reposed in them and the interests they are expected to cherish. The clearing out, as far as practicable, of the Missouri, the rip-rapping and wing-daming of the Mississippi between St. Louis and Cairo, and several other needed improvements are mentioned as "enterprises that would make the fame and fortune of any Western Representative who has the good sense and perseverance to give them shape and direction."

We of this locality are most interested in the improvement of the Missouri and Osage Rivers.

During our acquaintance with it—a period of twelve years—the Missouri has been almost entirely useless for the purposes of navigation. Still it is classed by Government authorities as one of our principal navigable streams. It is not a navigable stream unless made so by artificial means. True in seasons of high water it has sufficient depth of channel for any vessel. But in such seasons few vessels, if any, have the temerity to venture upon its turbulent and muddy flood.

To make it serviceable for purposes of transportation after the freshets that affect it shall have subsided is what is desirable and demanded.

It is believed that dikes of stone projected into the stream at certain distances from each other will operate successfully in confining the river to a single permanent channel of sufficient depth and certainty for the uses of navigation—especially at this point, above and below.

But, as before suggested, this is a matter to which the attention of the Government Engineer Corps should be directed, and, if necessary, by the authority of Congress.

We appeal to the House Committee of Commerce and navigation, of which our good friend Mr. Flukelburg is a member, to give this subject the consideration it importance demands.

HON. J. F. MEKERNAN.

The painful news of the death of Hon. J. F. McKernan, at his home in Osage City, on Sunday last, has already spread over the country. He was one of the most highly esteemed citizens of the State, and his loss will be deeply deplored by many.

Mr. McKernan was born in June, 1826, at Zanesville, Washington County, Ohio. He was, therefore, at his death, within a few months of forty-seven years of age. He came to this State in 1856, in the capacity of a Topographical Engineer on the Pacific railroad, which was then building. He shortly after located at Osage City, in the Commission business, where he lived until his death.

Until the war, he took no active part in politics. But in that trying hour, when the services of every patriot were needed, he promptly took rank as a leader along with the late Judge Wells and Col. Boone, and others in this part of the State. Clear judgment and resolute purpose, he was an invaluable public servant, was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1865, and of the House of Representatives of the Twenty-Fifth General Assembly. Was also, at one time, Presiding Justice of the Cole County Court. In every relation in life, in all his dealings with men he was marked with the same unswerving integrity, the same devotion to duty and the cause of the right.

He was a single man, having never been married. One younger brother, a prominent iron manufacturer at Indianapolis, and several sisters there, survive him. Though living alone here, away from family relatives, yet he was surrounded with hosts of devoted friends. His kindly impulses and generous hospitality had won for him the affection and esteem of all. And many will to-day miss—oh how sadly, his friendly aid and counsel.

Yes! McKernan is dead. The grave has claimed of his for a victim, our friend. In the prime of a life unblemished with a stain; in the midst of a career unclouded by a fault; in the hour of his usefulness; in the noon of his promise, he is gone. We grieve for his loss. His place is vacant and none may fill it.

With the honors of the Order of Odd-fellowship, of which he was a member, his remains were laid to rest in the Cemetery here on Wednesday last. Peace be to his memory.

HON. S. S. BURDETT.

We have seen it stated in the papers that this gentleman is a candidate for the office of Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives, to succeed Mr. McPherson, the present incumbent. We do not know that it is true. We know that he has never solicited the position, but that his friends whose name is "legion," and who may be found in every part of the land in plentiful numbers, would rejoice to see him elected to fill the position, is neither doubtful nor strange. And now that his name is mentioned in connection with the office and the matter brought to our attention, we readily see and are fully convinced that no better selection for it could be found. He is certainly our candidate for the office. If we have any ground of hesitation at all in proclaiming it, it is for the reason that he deserves a higher and more distinguished position. We are aware, however, that he is a man of humble aspirations though of superior and unequalled capabilities. He is especially an expert in the details of the law, and has been for many years in a printing office, becoming an expert in the art of typesetting. On his arrival in St. Louis, his aim

INTERESTING INCIDENT.

A little episode occurred in the Senate on Wednesday, the day of inauguration of the Governor and Lieutenant Governor, not devoid of interest. In 1855, Charles F. Johnson, now Lieutenant Governor of the State of Missouri and President of the Senate, appeared in St. Louis to enter upon the practice of the law, having previously studied and been admitted to the bar, at that time quite young. He had also served some years in a printing office, becoming an expert in the art of typesetting. On his arrival in St. Louis, his aim

was to associate himself with some old and experienced lawyer, but, to enable him to look around, he concluded to put in his leisure time in the composing room of a newspaper office. With this view, he applied at the Daily Herald establishment, corner of Second and Pine streets, made known his desires, and the foreman of the office, Major George W. Gilson, at this time the city editor and Jefferson City correspondent of that able and flourishing Republican journal, the St. Louis Globe, at once gave him employment.

Young Johnson was not compelled to wait long for an opportunity to pursue the profession of his choice, and from that day to this, save as an editorial writer or correspondent, he has had naught to do with typesetting or the "mallet" and "plane." The people of St. Louis called him successively to the city attorneyship, circuit attorneyship, membership of the General Assembly, and now, by the voice of the people of the State, he holds the second office in their gift, and his old Herald office foreman was the first to congratulate him upon taking his seat as the President of the Senate, a position which we doubt not he will honor and adorn.

The tribulations of the Democracy are numerous—as numerous indeed as are their Senatorial candidates.

Bogy, a bland mannered, black-haired gentleman, with enough of sanctimoniousness in his make-up to commend him graciously to the methodical, is making a sad havoc of all his chances. Church-going members only incline to go for him—just for his "mild" "so child-like and bland." But his champagne business has ruined his chances with them. Tribulation, one.

Yest, a florid-faced, flowery fellow, is on the other extreme. No temperance candidate can win in this contest, certain. This is Yest's mistake. If he don't take anything himself, he should keep a little for his friends. Not wine. That won't do. That's the rule of Bogy. The majority take their "straight." At the risk of being twitted as the "rotten apple candidate," he who would win must avoid the temperance dodge, and our friend V. will find it so. Tribulation, two.

Blair, well, he's down and when a fellow's down we are not of the kind to hurt him. We hear his friends are becoming hopeless and are now planning for the privilege of naming as his successor—either Brown or Broadhead. Though it is maliciously suggested that the whole scheme is simply a ruse to get a responsible sponsor for the whisky bill, contracted, on a promise to deliver what was never had—a certain number of votes. Tribulation, three.

Phelps, grumbling with the gout. As bad off as Blair, both of whom are swearing each other to be too poor dead to deserve anything beyond a decent burial. No use for whisky here, except as an outward application on the troublesome toe. Of course, a sacrilegious use of the article, like that, is too exasperating to be a successful, bottoming dodge. Pharewell, Phelps. Tribulation, four.

Napton and Edwards, staid, scholarly, excellent gentlemen. Alike innocent and ignorant of politics. Tribulations five and six.

Well, here's a half dozen tribulations the party is vexed with. The mention might be enlarged. But it is vain.

LOUIS NAPOLEON DEAD.

Just as we go to press the intelligence comes of the death of Louis Napoleon, at Chislehurst, yesterday morning.

STATE ITEMS.

A calf, covered with fur, is one of the recent curiosities of Platte county.

A poor wretched girl of Kansas City, has fallen heir to \$100,000 in England.

Shaw in Buchanan, Holt and Andrew counties measures twelve to twenty inches in depth.

The navigation of the Missouri River with light draft vessels is suggested by the Kansas City Times.

A narrow gauge railroad is being projected from Kansas City to St. Louis, along the line of the Missouri river.

Employees of the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad, at Kansas City, are on a strike, because of having their wages reduced.

A Mormon Missionary appeared at St. Joseph several days since and has prospered to the extent of about twenty converts.

Joplin, the new mining city of the Southwest, will soon have seventeen smelting furnaces in operation within its limits.

A. B. Barrett, President of the St. Louis Fair Association is being hauled over the coals for using his position for his personal political purpose.

The Joplin News says: "About five hundred miners are already at work at the new mines, four miles west, which were unknown four weeks since."

C. B. France, Esq. of St. Joseph, is the stakeholder of a bet of \$2,000 between John Severance and Walter Young, on the election of Parker to Congress. Severance won but can't get the money.

Henry Walker, a white-skinned inhabitant of Kansas City, is infatuated with "Burnt Mary"—a coal-black negro woman of most hideous aspect. His infatuation is languishing in jail, while he is belling earnestly for the support of her obnoxious brood.

Sedalia has four daily newspapers—all of them are assured are significantly supported—the Times, Democrat, News and Opinion. Magnan, publisher of the latter, pays to the enterprise of a half dozen or so, the stipend of furnishing a sufficient amount of advertising to encourage him in the continuance of his daily. Of course each of the four are principally engaged in a laudable rivalry in advertising the city.

LEGISLATIVE.

Our report of Legislative proceedings concluded last week with the business of the business of Thursday.

IN THE SENATE.

The nominations for officers of the Democratic caucus were, on Friday morning

For President pro tem, Hon. Thomas Essex, of Iowa.

For Secretary, B. F. Wallace, of Jackson.

For Assistant Secretary, George W. Frame, of Cass.

For Enrolling Clerk, Miss Minnie Christie, of Cole.

For Enrolling Clerk, H. C. Ewing, of St. Louis.

For Sergeant-at-Arms, W. F. Cullen, of St. Louis.

For Door-keeper, W. M. Winston, of Cole.

The officers thus elected were sworn in. Acting Lieutenant Governor Gattschalk, having delivered his victory, surrounded the Chair to Senator Essex, President pro tem.

The usual concurrent resolution appointing a committee to inform the Governor of the organization of the respective Houses and of their readiness to receive his message.

A question arose as to whether ex-Senator Gattschalk, officiating as Acting Lieutenant Governor of the State, was ever legally constituted as such officer, and was referred to a committee, consisting of Senators Brockmeyer, Newland and Filler.

The ordinary supply of POSTAGE AND NEWSPAPERS was voted, also a copy of the statutes.

THE REVENUE LAW.

Senator Bean introduced a bill postponing the effect of the Revenue law in so far as it imposes an interest charge on taxes unpaid, of one per cent for January, two per cent for February and three and a half per cent for March, and directs the Sheriff to collect on and sell personal property to satisfy the same. Referred to a special committee which subsequently reported a substitute providing for the annual settlement of the Collector on the third Monday of March, and that no seizure or sale for taxes should take place before February 10th—but not relieving delinquent taxpayers from the interest charges for non-payment bill and substitute now before Committee of Ways and Means.

Senator McGinnis introduced a bill placing the House of Refuge at St. Louis under the control of the City Authorities on the passage of an ordinance providing for the same. Referred to St. Louis Delegation.

Senator McCarty introduced a bill providing for two instead of three terms of the Circuit Court of Clay County. Referred.

THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

was then read. It is of interminable length, and a fair synopsis in the space allotted to us is impossible.

From the usual congratulations the Governor turns to mark the progress of the State in its rise in the last ten years from the eighth to the fifth State of the Union. He says further, that

"In 1860 our State was the eleventh in value of manufactured products; in 1870 it was the fifth, now, perhaps, the fourth. Returns from the office of the Auditor, manifest this, and show besides, the value of agricultural lands to have increased during the past two years from \$189,988,032 to \$208,300,104; of town lots from \$26,676,479 to \$35,218,839, and of personal property from \$134,200,891 to \$140,288,735. The latter figures do not include the railroads, amounting to \$27,725,607, now, for the first time separately assessed."

REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION.

is next considered. No recommendation is given upon the subject of calling a convention. The defects of the instrument are alluded to in general terms. Complaint is made that the veto power of the Governor is virtually nullified, for the reason that no bill can pass it over a veto.

STATE FINANCES AND CREDIT.

The table given with the statement that it shows the operations of the Treasury for the past two years, is incorrect. Instead, it shows, as per the Auditor's Report, the operations of the Treasury for the single year of 1872.

We reproduce the statement published in the last issue of the JOURNAL, showing fully the operations of the Treasury for 1872:

Balance Jan. 1, 1871.....	\$ 437,067 15
Receipts, 1871.....	\$ 2,821,507 50
Receipts, 1872.....	\$ 2,451,741 00
Total.....	\$ 5,710,315 65
Warrants paid, 1871.....	\$ 5,219,227 85
Warrants paid, 1872.....	\$ 2,700,000 00
Uncurrent funds received.....	\$ 111,000 00
Current funds, balance Jan. 1, '73	\$ 290,087 80
Total.....	\$ 7,220,313 65
Against the Treasury's balance above stated of.....	\$ 602,545 17
Outstanding warrants.....	\$ 191,915 10
Leaving subject to be drawn against, currency.....	\$ 427,885 98
Certificates of indebtedness.....	\$ 60,877 85
Actual cash balance.....	\$ 488,763 83

ROAD INDENTURES.

Is presented classified in the following table and is of importance for future reference.

Year.	Trackage wealth in miles, increase to per cent.	Trackage wealth in miles, decrease to per cent.	Trackage wealth in miles, no change.	Trackage wealth in miles, no change.	Trackage wealth in miles, no change.	Trackage wealth in miles, no change.	Trackage wealth in miles, no change.	Trackage wealth in miles, no change.	Trackage wealth in miles, no change.
1872	645	1,444	1,099	208	600	107	267	267	267
1873	645	1,444	1,099	208	600	107	267	267	267
1874	645	1,444	1,099	208	600	107	267	267	267
1875	645	1,444	1,099	208	600	107	267	267	267
1876	645	1,444	1,099	208	600	107	267	267	267
1877	645	1,444	1,099	208	600	107	267	267	267
1878	645	1,444	1,099	208	600	107	267	267	267
1879	645	1,444	1,099	208	600	107	267	267	267
1880	645	1,444	1,099	208	600	107	267	267	267
1881	645	1,444	1,099	208	600	107	267	267	267
1882	645	1,444	1,099	208	600	107	267	267	267
1883	645	1,444	1,099	208	600	107	267	267	267
1884	645	1,444	1,099	208	600	107	267	267	267
1885	645	1,444	1,099	208	600	107	267	267	267
1886	645	1,444	1,099	208	600	107	267	267	267
1887	645	1,444	1,099	208	600	107	267	267	267
1888	645	1,444	1,099	208	600	107	267	267	267
1889	645	1,444	1,099	208	600	107	267	267	267
1890	645	1,444	1,099	208	600	107	267	267	267
1891	645	1,444	1,099	208	600	107	267	267	267
1892	645	1,444	1,099	208	600	107	267	267	267

It is deduced from the foregoing table that a temporary loan will be needed to cover deficits during the next five years.

The financial policy of the State is then considered in a strain of criticism upon the course of the last Legislature in its refusal to adopt the specie payments in the fulfillment of the letter of our obligations, to the State, if pursued to the end in dealing with her creditors.

The message was ordered printed.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1.—Senator Strother introduced a bill

ABOLISHING CAPITAL PUNISHMENT, and fixing the punishment for murder at imprisonment in the Penitentiary for life.

ELECTION MONEY.

Senator McGinnis introduced a bill, making the receiving of money for election purposes, etc., a misdemeanor, punishable by fine of \$500.

A committee to investigate

THE NORTHWEST LUNATIC ASYLUM location was ordered referred to a committee.

MONDAY, JANUARY 6.—Mr. Boneke introduced a bill making it the duty of county courts instead of sheriffs to

SELECT JURORS FOR SERVICE, in the circuit courts.

Mr. Green introduced a bill

CONCERNING DESCENTS AND DISTRIBUTIONS, amending the General Statute and providing that husbands shall precede brothers and sisters, and fathers and mothers, in the line of inheritance. Referred.

Mr. McGinnis introduced a bill

IMPOSING A JURY TAX ON ALIENS twenty-one years of age of twenty-five dollars annually after having resided in the country twenty-five years.

Mr. Litter gave notice of a bill establishing a

STATE REFORM SCHOOL, at an early day, for juvenile offenders.

REGULATING RAILROADS.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7.—Senator Boneke introduced a bill providing for Railroad Commissioners, to have supervision of railroad interests of the people.

Senator Ladue introduced a similar bill.

Also, a bill to prohibit unjust discriminations and extortions of railroad companies; which were all referred to Committee on Internal Improvements.

PAY OF THE MEMBERS.

Senator Morrison introduced a bill, appropriating \$40,000 for pay and \$10,000 for contingent expenses of the General Assembly.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8.—The maps and documents, giving the results of the

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, were received from the Governor and referred to the Committee on Mines and Mining, with instructions to report the number of copies required to be printed.

Several bills were introduced and referred.

The Senate and House convened

IN JOINT SESSION

for the inauguration of Governor Woodson, and Lieutenant Governor-elect Johnson.

In joint session, after the announcement of the vote at their election, Governor Woodson delivered his

INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

Disavowing all partisan purposes and proclaiming himself the Governor of the people and not of a party, he proceeded to express his views upon several topics demanding public attention and the consideration of the General Assembly.

OF CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS.

"I am not prepared to say that my judgment favors the calling of a convention, either to revise the present, or draft a new Constitution.

In the first place, it is patent to all observing men that